

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning on line 38 of column 5 as follows:

FIG. 4 shows a computer monitor display for a system configured in accordance with Mode IV as listed in FIG. 15. Using a 20" high-resolution computer monitor with a dimension in pixels of 1600×1200, 25 windows with a dimension in pixels of 320×240 may be displayed simultaneously. Twenty-four windows may be implemented as camera displays, and one is implemented as a [the] utility window. Recording all twenty-four windows, and also the utility window, at 1 fps will allow 180 hours of B/W images in this configuration per 10 GB DAT tape. If color recording is desired, a 20 GB 8-mm data cartridge will allow 180 hours of color images.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on line 13 of column 6 as follows:

In operation, the user need only observe the various display windows on the monitor screen, rather than concentrate on many monitors simultaneously, thereby reducing the risk of missing an important event. Since no video switcher is used in recording, and images from all sources are continuously recorded at the selected frame rate for each source, more information is recorded than in conventional analog systems, wherein events may be missed due to the sequential switching of input images. The digital format also improves the picture quality, as the signal-to-noise ratio will be higher than for analog systems. In addition, there is no loss of quality during recording or playback, and because the recording technique is digital, other types of information optionally may be recorded along with the camera data, such as audio, time, date, location, etc.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on line 50 of column 7 as follows:

FIG. 9 is a functional diagram of a digital output universal camera adapter. This is a fully digital version of the camera adapter as described in co-pending U.S. patent application Ser. No. 08/050,861, titled "PERSONAL-COMPUTER BASED VIDEO PRODUCTION SYSTEM" now U.S. Pat. No. 5,450,140. The A/D-converter, digital image data-compressor, and bi-directional interface camera adapter 100 accepts analog audio and video signals from the camera 102, and converts them to digital signals in anticipation of the transmission of these signals over the interconnection network 104. The camera adapter also receives camera control commands from the PC by means of the interconnection network, and translates them into the appropriate pan, tilt, zoom, focus and iris control signals for the particular camera equipment, including the camera lens 106 and the pan/tilt mounting facilities 108. In addition, the camera adapter also has inputs for several "alarm system" type sensors 110, as, for example, motion detectors, photocell detectors, or simple switches. These alarm signals are digitized, encoded, and then transmitted to the main PC by means of the [interconnection,network] interconnection network. Power is supplied for this equipment from a local source 112. This camera adapter is implemented to provide a full-function system, adaptable to all existing types of cameras and control equipment. However, because of the large number of interconnections involved in the adapter, camera, pan/tilt unit, and sensors, the installation process may be somewhat complicated.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on line 20 of column 9 as follows:

The application of these PC-based monitoring techniques also may [he] be implemented in cases in which the central monitoring area may be located at some distance from the remote site. In this case, the physical hardware and networking facilities will follow the example shown

in FIG. 11, with the understanding that "Location 1" through "Location IN" will now refer to separate monitoring for security applications or other monitoring purposes.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on line 4 of column 10 as follows:

Using the PC-based monitoring system, it is possible to create a video conference that presents a much more natural viewing appearance. As shown in FIG. 13A, a multiple-camera, multiple-display unit 310 [preferably] is preferably located directly on the conference table 312. This reduces the camera-perspective-distorting effects just described, because conference members 314 may be seated in a more comfortable and convenient position. The resulting video image is also much more natural. Each controller remote site computer-display section 322 (as described herein below) simultaneously shows all of the members participating in the remote conference, with an individual video window allocated for each participant, under control from the PC-based monitoring system operator. In practice, the remote site equipment operator will select one of the display operating modes as described in FIG. 15, depending on the number of subjects (camera views) and the capabilities of the remote site computer equipment. Optionally, an additional camera 316 fitted with a wide-angle lens will provide an overall view of the conference room, in accordance with more traditional systems.